Hill Group Says Now Is Time to Infiltrate Cuba

By Lee Winfrey
Chicago Daily News Service

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"The time has come for a meaningful infiltration of Cuba and a concerted effort to topple the regime," said Sen. Philip A. Hart (D-Mich.), Subcommittee Chairman.

The Subcommittee concluded, however, that U.S. recognition of a Cuban government in exile is "inadvisable."

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"God help us," he said, "if we have to decide who is to be king among those voices."

The five-man Subcommittee issued a 12-page report after a 14-month study of refugee problems. The group called for a "sense of urgency" in spurring the resettlement of Cubans outside South Florida.

The Subcommittee urged the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to set up centers outside Miami where refugees could be trained for jobs in American industry.

The Peace Corps shoud be brought into the refugee program to help assist the exiles, the Subcommittee said.

The report, which was prepared by the Subcommittee's Democratic majority, said the refugee program in general "has been planned wisely and administered efficiently and well."

The report included a sharp rebuke, however, from one of the minority members —Sen. Hugh Scott (R-Pa.).

"To include in this report a summarization of Cuban policy in the form of a blanket assertion of net progress is ill advised and uncalled for," Scott said.

"Our policy as to Cuba, in fact, is ill defined, fumbling and certainly not clearly articulated."

Scott offered no criticism of the refugee program itself. His objection was aimed at testimony from Edwin M. Martin, former Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs, who said that "in the net, our (Cuban) policy is progressing."

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